

the YELLOWSTONE



News

August 21, 1996

NPS Employee Newsletter

Next Deadline: Aug. 28

Mine Agreement Will Protect Yellowstone



President Bill Clinton on Monday, August 12, announced an agreement between Crown Butte Mines, environmental groups, and Federal agencies that would stop a massive gold, silver, and copper mine just outside Yellowstone National Park. Leaders of conservation groups and Federal agencies battling the proposed New World Mine hailed the settlement as a major victory for the environment and a way to forever protect Yellowstone National Park from mining pollution in this area. As Michael Clark, executive director for the Greater Yellowstone Coalition expressed, "President Clinton hit a political home run today. The American public has expressed strong opposition to this mine for years. Today's action is an example of government being responsive to people and a major victory for the environment."

"It's our job to protect Yellowstone Park on a daily basis" said Superintendent Mike Finley. "However, seldom do we as employees get the chance to participate in a major process that defends Yellowstone Park from a very serious activity such as the New World Mine. It could have meant damage for generations resulting in park energies and budgets being directed toward documenting or mitigating the damage."

President Clinton gave his speech to nearly 300 persons in Barronette Meadow and said that the agreement "proves that everyone can agree that Yellowstone is more precious than gold. We are all protected from years of and years of expensive and bitter litigation. And while there is still work to do, and work in which members of the general public must and will be involved, we are going to move forward. And this signing today means that it will come the way so many of you have worked for, for so many years. I also want to say that the way this was done should become a model for America's challenges, not only in the environment but in other areas as well."

In the agreement, environmental groups that had sued Crown Butte over pollution draining from the companies mining lands will drop their lawsuit, Federal and state agencies will suspend work on an environmental impact statement assessing the effects of the mine, and Crown Butte must cease all exploration and other mining activity. Crown Butte will also place \$22.5 million into a special account that will pay for the company's continuing cleanup of historical mine waste on its holdings. In turn, Federal agencies will give Crown Butte \$65 million worth of Federal property to be identified through a process which will include public comment. The property has yet to be identified.

The deal has been called a win-win proposition, as the deal compensates shareholders for their investments, gives environmentalists strict protection for Yellowstone and in doing so, respects both private property rights and the sanctity of Yellowstone National Park.

Everyone involved in the "event" on Monday seems to have been affected in a very positive, emotional way. Ranger/Naturalist Mary Wilson at Grant was involved with some of the logistical aspects of moving invited guests and the press from Silvergate to the meadow in the Lamar valley. " After completing his speech, President Clinton spent almost an hour meeting guests and park employees at the event site. Towards the end of this hand-shaking session, Superintendent Finley gathered as many green and grey park employees as he could together for a group picture with the President. Wearing a hat provided by Elizabeth Maki, who noticed that the President was having difficulty getting the hat to sit just right on his head, Elizabeth said, 'No, no, the hat has to be parallel to the ground, not tilted back like that!' to which the President said in a rather sheepish voice, 'Well, that's kinda difficult since the hat's too big for me.' But, at last, President Clinton settled for the best position he could given the circumstances, and the White House photographer snapped away as this country's President was unofficially adopted as Yellowstone's newest park ranger!

Don Stahl, seasonal ranger-naturalist from Canyon was fortunate enough to lead the President, First Lady and Chelsea on a very difficult 8 1/2 mile stretch of trail from Mt. Washburn to the Glacial Boulder parking area. The President set a pace that kept all of us moving faster than we wanted to--at times. To add insult to injury, I overheard him say to Chelsea near the end of the hike, 'You know, if we hadn't dawdled so much we could have gotten here 45 minutes sooner.' So much for my assessment of the Presidential fitness. I'm happy to say that Mr. Clinton's energy provided me with my most memorable day in 43 seasons with the Park Service."

(Editor's note: for those of you who are interested in watching the videotaped version of the President's speech in the Lamar Valley, showings can be scheduled through the Superintendent's Office, call X2002 or X2003)

Heartfelt Thanks

A sincere thank you to all of you in Mammoth, Gardiner, and the park interior who showed kindness and concern in the days following my dad's death. Your support made life much easier for Janet and me. An extra large thank you goes to Steve and Ellen, who were exceptionally helpful despite their demands of caring for new arrival--Thomas! Once again, we thank you for your kindness. Dan Mahoney

Cards and Letters, Please!

Robert (Bob) Garber, NPS Retiree and former Maintenance Management System Coordinator for the Old Southwest Region, has been diagnosed with terminal stomach cancer. Bob was released from St. Vincent Hospital on August 14 and is at home. Cards, notes, or letters of encouragement to Bob would be appreciated by the family and can be sent to 2952 Calle de Ovejas, Santa Fe, NM 87505. The family is accepting inquiries/concerns about Bob at home at (505) 471-6591.

From the Research Library...

Seasonals: Thanks for coming in to use the Research Library this summer. It was good to get to know you. Please make sure all of your books and videos are turned in before you leave. Please call if you have any questions call 344-2264. Thanks again, and have a great winter. The Librarians.

Farewell Yellowstone Employees

Dear Friends, It is with mixed emotions that I am writing this letter. In order to participate in a new approach to providing unemployment Insurance claims service, I have accepted a position in Billings effective August 12, 1996. One regret I have about making this move is that I will no longer be in Livingston to serve the many claimants who have become friends and almost family! It has been an honor to be able to work with each and every one of you...your kindness, compassion, and friendship is what has kept me at this office. I will miss all of you. Remember, it is imperative that you call the office at (406) 222-0520 the week before you get laid off to find out if there are new policies that you must follow. Procedures are changing rapidly! Sincerely, Bonnie Johnson, UI Leadworker, Livingston Job Service.

"Exploring Yellowstone" Concludes Another Successful Summer

Kids from Mammoth, Gardiner, Cooke City, and Corwin Springs hiked, explored, fished, learned local history, did art, swam, played soccer and basketball, and listened to stories from around the world this summer. Thanks to "Exploring Yellowstone", the summer school program sponsored by the Yellowstone National Park School, student groups ventured as far as Canyon and Bozeman, or stayed as close as the Gardner River and the YNP school library. Getting wet splashing in Slough Creek, getting hot walking to a special place for drawing in a journal you'd made, getting excited catching fish with your own flies, and getting tired out from an all-day bus trip and swim at Bogart Park, was all just part of the fun. When it was all over, participants celebrated at a potluck picnic, timed to coincide exactly with one of the summer's few big thunderstorms. Hats off to all the kids, parent volunteers, rangers, and staff that made it happen!
Nancy Loren

Congratulations to Local Kids at Park County (Montana) Fair

The following were just some of the many successful kids from Gardiner and Yellowstone to compete in this Year's Park County Fair in Livingston, Montana:

- Jackie Mellott--Grand Champion In Horsemanship
- Sicily Hoe--Bareback Equitation (tie) Reserve Grand Champion
- Emma Heller--Reserve Grand Champion--Miniature Goat
- Nichole DeWeese--Purple in several Cat Show categories
- Chelsea DeWeese--Reserve Sr. Showman--Rabbits
- Doug Hoak--Blue in woodworking and 3rd in steer wrestling

Our heartiest congratulations to these hardworking individuals.

Save Your Plastic Containers☺☺☺

Jim Evanoff requests that you please save your clean plastic containers (ie..milk jugs, tide bottles, any colored bottles) for an upcoming media event at Old Faithful in October with Lever Brothers. They will be using these containers to show the "before" product and the new boardwalks as the "after" product. You can drop them off at Supply or hike one at Evanoff the next time you see him...ha! Call Jim Evanoff at 344-2330 with any questions.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

☼ **Vet Visit** Veterinarian, Dr. Jim Murray, will be at the Gardiner Exxon on Friday, Aug. 30 from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. No appointment necessary. Housecalls available upon request. Next visit: Sept. 13.

☼ **Attention all Artists and Crafters**--The fourth Annual Christmas in September Bazaar will be held in the Mammoth Canteen Gym on September 19. For more details call Dorothy Bishop at 344-7441 or Vera Dunlop at 344-8947.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: 1980 Chevy Citation. Original owner, \$59,000 miles. Great condition, \$2,500. Kenmore Washer, \$50, good condition, and Kenmore dryer, \$100, excellent condition. Nancy Glazier signed print "Youngblood," \$900 or best offer. Call (307) 344-2204 weekdays.

For Sale: Panasonic microwave oven with carousel (has popcorn setting), great shape, runs good. \$40. Call Jan at 344-2003.

For Sale: Global Village Bronze Modem for Macintosh. \$25. Four Suburban sized studded tires with chain. \$100. Six mini blinds--fits large Mission 66 windows and tiny side windows, also regular sized window. Call for measurements at 344-7344.

For Sale: 14 ft. wood drift boat with tilt trailer, \$1,200. Boat needs to be refinished. 12 ft. V-Hull boat with 9 1/2 HP. Evinrude. Good condition. Call Woody at (406) 646-4736.

For Sale: Large, brown-striped area rug, free. Microwave, \$25. Compaq-Prolinea 3/25S computer. Includes MS Dos 6, Windows and Word Perfect 5.1. 386 processor. \$500. Call 344-2015 days, or 344-7920 eves.

For Sale: Rolling Butcher block, BIG, lots of storage. Top is sanded, needs refinishing. Two wheels need replacing. \$50 or best offer. Call Elizabeth or Mike after 6 p.m. at 344-9242.

For Sale: Sailboard, BIC Star, \$300. Backswing, \$50. Weight Bench, \$10. Recliner, beige leather, \$250. Vacuum cleaner, Hoover upright, \$30. Call Dorothy Bishop at 344-7441.

For Sale: Set of four stake pocket tie-downs for slide-in truck camper. \$10. Call 344-7756 after 5 p.m.

For Sale: Emerald green Jeep Cherokee. 2 door, with 6 speed manual transmission, air conditioning, trailer hitch and hookups. Like new. Contact Tim or Charissa Reid for more information; evenings, at 242-2515.

For Sale: 190 mile range, FM TV antenna. VHF, UHF, with original box and papers. In good shape, asking \$45. Call Al at 545-8028, leave a message.

For Sale:

1979 VW Rabbit, 4-door, 4-speed manual transmission. Gas engine, runs great! \$1200 or best offer. Leave message for Sandi at (307) 545-2750 Sunday thru Thursday, or at (406) 646-7222 Thurs - Sat. eves.

Wanted to Trade: Will trade NPS insulated coveralls size 40 reg. for size 38 reg. They have been washed once. Call OF Maintenance Mon-Fri. and ask for John at 545-2730.

Wanted: 30 gallon aquarium. Call Steve at 344-7319.

Found: Gold ring. Call to identify. 848-7623.

Found: Fancy toy sword, found at helibase/running track. Call Ben or Steve at 344-7319.

Found: "Class 56 NPS Seasonal L.E. Ranger Training" t-shirt. This shirt was found at Mammoth Elementary School on Monday 8/12. Call 344-2173 to claim.

Found: Is your flat hat missing something? Call VSO at 344-2107 to claim your hatband.



7th Annual Yellowstone Scramble/Orange Ball Golf Tournament



September 7, 1996

**Valley View Golf Course
Bozeman, Montana**



Entry fee: \$30

**To Register Call: (307) 344-5344
Deadline: August 30, 1996**

**Entry Fee Includes:
Green Fees
&**



Southwestern Steak Dinner



*Some golf carts will be available.
Cost for a cart is \$18.
Please specify if you will need a
cart when registering.*

**RETIREMENT POTLUCK &
BARBEQUE
FOR
HARVEY YANG**

**He's gonna go fishin'
after 30 years with
the Government!**

Thursday, August 22, 1996

Time: 4:00 p.m.

(to you Ranger types: 1600 hours)

Bay No. 1 at the Garage

***Bring Meat to grill + dish to share
Drinks and Table Services provided***

EMPLOYEE WORKSHOPS FOR COMMERCIAL SERVICES PLANNING

The National Park Service recently began a process of reviewing all commercial services offered in Yellowstone National Park. This effort will result in a Commercial Services Management Plan that will provide guidance to park managers for the next fifteen to twenty years. To date, we have published an information brochure and developed a web page that solicited input on the general issues and alternatives for commercial services in the park. Comments were due July 22, and are currently being reviewed.

Our next step in the process will be to develop a commercial service statement that describes the park's desired future condition for providing commercial services to visitors. To assist us in developing a commercial services statement, we have scheduled several interactive workshops for employees and cooperators.

Workshops will be held at:

TWRS Rec Hall at Mammoth, September 4, 1:30 - 4:30 P.M.
Old Faithful Pub, September 10, 1:30 - 4:30 P.M.
Grant Village VC Auditorium, September 11, 1:30 - 4:30 P.M.
Lake Lodge Rec Hall, September 12, 1:30 - 4:30 P.M.

Questions to be addressed are:

1. What types of commercial services and facilities are appropriate?
2. What levels of services and facilities are essential to serve Yellowstone visitors?
3. What types of support facilities (employee housing, warehouses, storage, transportation) are necessary?
4. What are the appropriate areas in and outside the park for facilities which serve visitors and provide support services?

We hope that you will join us and give us the benefit of your ideas about what commercial services should be like in the future. Please call the park concessions office at (307) 344-2271 if you have any questions about these workshops.